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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of Christopher D. Knight, et al.

Serial No. 09/697,235

For PROCESS FOR OPTIMIZING MILK PRODUCTION

Group Art Unit NOT YET ASSIGNED

Continuation of 09/033,095, filed June 15 1999

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT A BEFORE EXAMINATION

TO THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS,
Washington, D.C. 20231

SIR/MADAM:

Please enter the following Amendment:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the first paragraph of page 1, beginning on line 3, as follows:

This application is a [complete application based on application Serial]
continuation of U.S. Application No. 09/033,095, filed June 15, 1999, which is a continuation
application of U.S. [application Serial] Application No. 08/900,414, filed July 25, 1997, now
Patent No. 6,017,563, the entire disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference.

REMARKS

The foregoing amendment is submitted to clarify the relation of this application to a
prior application.

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I certify that the foregoing Preliminary Amendment A, in the application of Christopher D. Knight, et al. is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on this 29th day of November, 2000.

Lisa E. Buchhold

ARK/leb